

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants	Ralph Lance Carter, <i>et al.</i>
Serial No.	Filing Date: February 17, 2004
Title of Application:	Scanning IR Microscope

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
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Preliminary Amendment

Applicant herewith presents its amendment and remarks. Please amend the claims as detailed below.

In the Claims

1. (Original) A method of operating an FT-IR microscope in association with a scanning spectrometer wherein incremental movement of the moveable stage of the microscope is synchronized with the scans of the scanning spectrometer.
2. (Original) A method of operating an FT-IR microscope according to claim 1 wherein the movement of the moveable stage of the microscope is synchronized with the end of each spectrometer scan.
3. (Currently Amended) A method of operating an FT-IR microscope according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~ wherein scanning of the spectrometer is arranged to operate continuously.
4. (Currently Amended) A method of operating an FT-IR microscope according to claim 1 ~~any preceding claim~~ wherein the microscope is a single detector or small detector array type microscope.